

To the Honorable FCC Commissioners:

As a broadcaster for 25 years I have many concerns about the further concentration of media ownership in the United States. This issue deserves more study and public debate given the profound changes it promises to usher in.

The increasing concentration in radio ownership over the past several years has not benefited competition and innovation. It has stifled it. In San Diego, Clear Channel not only dominates our local radio landscape, but willingly exceeds their current maximum local frequency allocation by leasing many powerful Mexican radio signals (programming solely on the English-speaking San Diego audience) and thus increasing their stranglehold on the San Diego market while skirting FCC rules.

In my opinion the public has been shortchanged by Clear Channel's hegemony of the airwaves. They have a minimal commitment to local news and no interest in civic involvement unless it directly benefits their gross rating points. I know this as a working professional and educator in the broadcast industry these many years.

Allowing greater concentration of local TV ownership and cross-ownership with other forms of media raises too many questions for this issue to be decided under the radar of the American public. A hasty vote should be avoided for I believe we cannot put the genie back in the bottle if it turns out to be a monster.

I urge you to postpone the June 2nd vote in order to give the issue more study and greater involvement from the true owners of the airwaves, the citizens of the United States of America.

Respectfully,

David A. Drexler  
San Diego, California